



Election/ # 13
PATENT
Attorney Docket No. AME-06381 J 1/21/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: William D Huse *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/982,464

Art Unit: 1642

Filed: 10/18/2001

Examiner: Helms, L

Entitled: **Methods of Optimizing Antibody Variable Region Binding Affinity**

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
MAILED NOVEMBER 20, 2002**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dated: January 3, 2003

By:


Traci E. Light

Sir:

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed November 20, 2002, the Examiner requests an election between two groups of claims: Group I (Claims 1-6 and 13-18) and Group II (Claims 7-12 and 19-24), arguing each group presents a patentably distinct invention. Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the Examiner's restriction of the instant invention is inappropriate. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the restriction, as the Applicants believe all the pending claims in the instant application should be combined into one Group.